

division, and hence the increase. In like manner a large portion of the increase of Rs. 2,226 in the expenditure of the Sholapur Division can be explained by the debit of Rs. 2,153 on account of forest survey charges, and the remaining small portion to the purchase of wire for fencing.

210. The increase of Rs. 4,644 in the Sâtara Division is due partly to the increase in the establishment of the Forest Settlement Officer, and partly to the expenditure for three months having been added to that of the past twelve months.

211. The small increase of Rs. 2,222 under B. Establishments, when the results of 12 months are compared with those of the past year, and of Rs. 88,143 when the expenditure of 15 months is taken into account, calls for no remarks, as the increase is mostly due to the increased rates of salaries drawn by superior Forest Officers under the reorganization scheme which was given effect to from 1st April 1892, as stated in paragraph 195 above, and to the expenditure on account of salaries of officers, &c., for the additional three months.

CHAPTER V.

FOREST ADMINISTRATION.

212. The forest administration has, under Government Resolution No. 7107, dated 6th September 1892, in the Revenue Department, been sub-ordinated to the Revenue Department, the Collector having been made the responsible officer in each district for the forest administration in his charge, and the Conservator having been placed more in the position of a consultative officer in technical matters.

Establishments and their recruitment.

213. The reorganization of the superior grades of the Forest Department into Imperial and Provincial Services was brought into operation from the 1st April 1892, under orders contained in Government Resolution No. 1860, dated 17th March 1892, in the Revenue Department.

214. The following is the distribution of appointments in the Central Circle at the close of the year :—

				Rs.
1	Conservator ...	...	1st grade, at	1,600
1	Deputy Conservator	...	1st do. at	900
4	Do.	...	3rd do. at	650
1	Do.	...	4th do. at	550
7	Total Imperial			

				Rs.
3	Extra Assistant Conservators		1st grade, at	350
2	Do.		3rd do. at	250
1	Do.		4th do. at	200
6	Total Provincial.			

215. The following statement shows the distribution and cost of the existing sanctioned staff of Rangers, Foresters and Forest guards in the divisions comprising the Central Circle :—

No.	Division,	Number of Ranges,	RANGE FOREST OFFICERS.								Forest Guards.						Total monthly cost.	REMARKS.
			Rangers.				Foresters.											
			Rs. 100	Rs. 80	Rs. 60	Rs. 50	Rs. 40	Rs. 30	Rs. 20.	Rs. 15.	Rs. 12.	Rs. 10.	Rs. 9.	Rs. 8.	Rs. 7.			
1	East Khândesh...	13	1	3	5	7	17	25	22	8	16	20	20	40	75	15,159	The pay of Rangers and Foresters is personal, and they are liable to be transferred from one range to another as the exigencies of the service may require. Consequently the number of appointments in each grade is shown in lump for the whole Circle.	
2	West Khândesh...	10								7	14	18	18	50	102			
3	Nâsik ...	14								10	20	25	25	50	158			
4	Ahmednagar ...	11								6	12	22	22	50	85			
5	Poona ...	11								9	17	26	25	60	120			
6	Sâtara ...	14								9	18	24	23	57	102			
7	Sholapur...	7								3	6	11	8	16	68			
	Total ...	80	1	3	5	7	17	25	22	52	103	146	141	323	710	15,159		

216. In addition to the above, the following temporary establishment was in entertainment throughout the year, in the divisions of Násik and Poona, at a total monthly cost of Rs. 375 :—

Násik—3 Forest Guards at Rs. 8 each... | Poona—15 Forest Guards at Rs. 8 each.
 „ 3 do. at „ 7 „ ... | „ 30 do. at „ 7 „

217. The numerical strength and cost of the existing sanctioned office establishment of the Central Circle are exhibited in the statement given below :—

		NUMBER AND GRADATION.											Total monthly cost.
No.	Division.	Clerks.								Peons.			
		Ra. 100.	Ra. 80.	Ra. 60.	Ra. 50.	Ra. 40.	Ra. 30.	Ra. 20.	Ra. 15.	Ra. 10.	Ra. 9.	Ra. 8.	
													Ra.
1	Direction ...	1	1	1	2	2	2	2	...	1	1	5	579
2	East Khândesh ...	...	...	...	1	...	1	2	2	...	1	3	183
3	West Khândesh ...	...	...	...	1	...	1	2	3	...	1	5	214
4	Nâsik ...	...	...	...	1	...	1	2	2	...	1	3	183
5	Ahmednagar ...	...	...	...	...	1	1	2	2	...	1	3	173
6	Poona ...	...	...	...	1	...	1	2	3	...	1	5	214
7	Sâtara ...	...	...	...	1	...	1	2	3	...	1	5	214
8	Sholâpur ...	...	...	...	...	1	1	2	1	...	1	3	158
Total ...		1	1	1	7	4	9	16	16	1	8	32	1,918

218. Out of the total numerical strength shown against Direction, 3 clerks—one on Rs. 80, one on 40 and one on 30—and 2 peons at Rs. 8 each, have been attached to the office of the Deputy Conservator of Forests, Northern Circle, as a temporary measure.

219. In addition to the above permanent strength a temporary establishment, consisting of 1 clerk on Rs. 15 and 2 peons at Rs. 8 each, has been in entertainment in the Násik Division under the Sub-division Officer.

220. The supervision of the Divisional Forest Officers over the forest administration in their respective divisions was effective, and the general discipline was good.

In the East Khándesh Division 1 round guard and 7 beat guards and one depôt officer and one depôt peon were dismissed the service, for general misconduct and inattention to duty. One, Nathu Mairál, Depôt Officer at Dhánora, was prosecuted on a charge of criminal breach of trust, and was convicted and sentenced to 12 months' rigorous imprisonment and to pay a fine of Rs. 50.

In the West Khándesh Division one round guard was dismissed the service and one Range Forest Officer, Mirasgarali Rustumali, Forester Rs. 20 grade, of Navápur, was convicted under Section 384 of the Indian Penal Code and sentenced to six months' imprisonment.

In the Násik Division one round guard on Rs. 12, Mahádev Vishnu, is under prosecution for misappropriation of Government money; and one Shankar Keshav Joshi on Rs. 10 has absconded, as there is a case of embezzlement against him; 6 beat guards have resigned, and 15 have been dismissed for misconduct.

In the Ahmednagar Division, 5 beat guards were dismissed the service for allowing illicit cuttings in their beats and for neglect of duty.

In the Poona Division, 19 forest guards were dismissed the service, 15 were reduced for misconduct and irregularities. One round guard in the Mával Range, Shekh Mujáwar valad Shekh Yusaf, was prosecuted for absconding with Government money, and was sentenced to six months' rigorous imprisonment; and one Balábhai Taskhan, forest guard, was also prosecuted for illegally levying fees for grass and grazing from villagers, and although the evidence was strong, the case fell through on technical grounds.

In the Sátára Division, 5 forest guards were dismissed the service and one resigned. One of the former, a round guard in the Mán Range, was convicted under Section 409 of the Indian Penal Code and sentenced to one year's rigorous imprisonment for criminal breach of trust.

In the Sholápur Division, 2 round guards and 12 beat guards were dismissed the service for neglect of duty.

221. The year under report was not as unhealthy as the preceding one. However, malarial fever was generally prevalent; and the following is a list of casualties in the different divisions of the Central Circle :—

No.	Division.	Deaths.
1	East Khándesh	3
2	Násik	2
3	Ahmednagar	1
4	Poona	4
5	Sátára	2
	Total	12

222. Mr. Madan, Extra Assistant Conservator of Forests, has held charge of the East Khándesh Division during the greater portion of the year; and the Collector has remarked, in his review of the divisional administration report: "The gross revenue is practically stationary: but the net revenue has again increased. Mr. Madan is, I think, to be congratulated on the results of the year's work; he takes an interest in his duties, and works harmoniously with other departments."

223. Mr. E. G. Oliver has been Divisional Forest Officer of West Khándesh Division throughout the year with the exception of one month, from 19th April 1893 to 19th May, while he was on privilege leave, and has administered his division in an able and efficient manner, and deserves much credit for his successful management of such a large, important and difficult charge. The Collector has recorded as follows :—

- (a) That the forest settlement of the district is practically completed now, which, after all the uncertainty that has existed for so long, is a great relief. One cannot pass from the subject of forest settlement without mentioning the admirable way in which Mr. Dodgson has carried it out.
- (b) That the system of tracing internal fire-paths has been a success. For, though there were more fires this year than last, the area burnt was not half so much: showing that the fires did not spread as they did last year: and it is the spreading of a fire that the paths are intended to prevent.
- (c) That the number of cattle impounded fell off. And as Government attach a good deal of importance to this, it is satisfactory as showing that the people are beginning to understand the boundaries and to observe the rules. Rules will not be obeyed unless a penalty is attached and exacted when they are ignored. But the fact that the occasions for exacting penalties were less this year than last, is gratifying.
- (d) That the Department seem able to meet the demand for timber and to make their handsome revenue without drawing upon the timber in Government forest at all. This is just as well, as it is not possible to bring timber down from the Akráni and other big forests at a profit. But probably when the Tápti Valley Railway is made, this will all be changed.
- (e) That the financial results of the year have been excellent, and that this is not accidental and transient, but apparently part of a steady increase that has been going on for some years past.

224. Mr. Betham has performed his duties of Divisional Forest Office, Násik, in a very satisfactory manner as usual, and his Assistant, Mr. W. R. Gaunde, Extra Assistant Conservator, is reported to have worked well and to have given satisfaction.

225. Mr. Hornidge held charge of the Ahmednagar Division almost throughout the year, in addition to his own division of Sholápur. The Collector

of the latter district in forwarding the divisional report remarks that " Mr. Hornidge is a very industrious and conscientious officer ; " and the Conservator fully endorses this opinion.

226. The Poona Division was in charge of Mr. R. C. Wroughton from 1st April 1892 to 20th April 1892, when he was transferred to the Southern Circle as Conservator of Forests for that Circle, and was succeeded by Mr. Gleadow, who held charge up to 9th September 1892, when he was appointed a full-time Professor of Forestry at the College of Science, Poona. Mr. A. D. Wilkins then received charge of the division and held it up to the close of the year. All these officers have performed their duties satisfactorily with commendable zeal, energy and discretion, and it is also pleasing to note that Mr. J. H. Clabby, Sub-divisional Forest Officer, Poona, was of the greatest assistance to Mr. Wilkins.

227. Mr. R. S. F. Fagan was Divisional Forest Officer of Sátára throughout the year; and his Collector, Mr. Candy, in forwarding the report records that " Mr. Fagan has conducted the forest administration with singular ability and energy and rendered the Collector hearty co-operation when necessary."

Mr. Fagan reports that Mr. G. S. Hinge, who succeeded Mr. L. D. Joshi as Sub-divisional Forest Officer, Sátára, was of great assistance to him and deserves the highest commendation.

228. The subordinate officers generally both in the executive and office establishments have worked satisfactorily. A range forest officer's life is a very hard one with many and serious responsibilities, with constant calls upon his time and attention, and with little leisure to himself; and every reasonable consideration should be shown to these very useful officers, and their self-respect should be promoted by encouragement and praise when such has been fairly earned; and the Conservator has much pleasure in testifying to the good work done by, and in making special mention of, Messrs. Rámchandra Ráoji Bodvadkar and Aminuddin Alliuddin in East Khándesh, Abdul Rasul Khajbaksh in West Khándesh, Wáman Gopál Tumne and Kasamaga Mirzaaga in Násik, Dinkar Náráyan Dámle in Ahmednagar, Vishnu Mahádeo Tilak and Báláji Dhondeo Dhekne in Poona, Bálkrishna Balwant Parasnis and Keshav Pandurang Kavthekar in Sátára, in the executive branch; and of Messrs. Keshav Ganesh Vaidya, Madhavráo Náráyan Gokhale and Krishnáji Vyankatesh Lohokre, in the Conservator's Office, and Tukárám Vithoba Sonár, Dámodar Tukárám Salsingikar, Mádhavráo Dáji Joshi, Ganesh Náráyan Kavthekar, Trimbak Govind Mahájan, Gangádhár Chintáman Kále, and Vishnu Anant Bápat, in the Divisional Forest Offices, in the clerical branch.

Forest Instruction, &c.

229. As regards the working of the forest classes attached to the College of Science, Poona, the Principal of the College states that there are 25 candidates on the roll. The Conservator of Forests, Northern Circle (old), sent 4 candidates, the Conservator, Southern Circle, sent 4, and the Conservator, Sind Circle, sent 1 candidate only. At the final examination held in September 1892, 7 candidates appeared, of whom 6 passed the examination, Mr. F. Gleadow, Deputy Conservator of Forests, 3rd Grade, was appointed a full-time Professor of Forestry to the College from the 11th September 1892, and has been in charge of the classes ever since.

GENERAL REMARKS.

Imports and Exports of Forest Produce.

230. In the two forest divisions of Khándesh alone, in the Central Circle, is duty on foreign timber levied, while the exports of the Collectorate consist, for the main part, of Rosha oil (*Andropogon schœnanthus*) which goes to Bombay, and from there the best sort is exported to Europe. Teak (*Tectona grandis*) is also exported, to a small extent, from Khándesh down the Tápti river to the markets in the Baroda State.